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31 January 1957

MEMORANDON FOR DD/I (prep. Bor NSC Background)

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT ON 1956 SOVIET ECONOMIC PLAN RESULTS

- 5. The full statement of economic plan results in the USSR for 1956 is not yet available. On the basis of a short summary released yesterday, the economic development of the USSR looks like this:
 - A. Generally the Soviet economy appears to have done well last year but some problems exist which the USSR must solve if they are to continue their growth at the same pace.
 - B. Hational income grew 12 percent and total industrial output grew 11 percent (as compared with 9 percent for light industry) over 1955.
- 2. As had been apparent in previous statements by Soviet leaders, the plan results indicate that the Soviet Union has troubles in some of the extractive industries and in the production of building materials. Housing construction fell some 10 percent short of plan (some 3 million square meters of housing). Labor productivity, in industry, an important factor in the achievement of the 5 Year Plan, failed to increase at the rate necessary to meet the 1960 goals and poses a problem of considerable magnitude ofor the Soviet leaders.

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MENORANDUM FOR DD/I

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